

NEWS ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST FROM THE STATE OF OREGON

STUDENTS PACK APPLES.

Corvallis Experiment Station Will Ship Carload of Newtowns.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis—A carload of first class Newtowns, from an orchard operated under a lease by the horticultural department at the college, is being prepared for shipment, the grading and packing being done by students in the agricultural course. The work is a drill in that important department of horticulture, and they get regular credits for it in their college work. Two days were spent recently by John Castner, a packing expert from Hood River, in giving the students special instruction.

The Newtowns being packed for shipment are from the five-acre Meeker orchard, but a few hundred yards from the college. The land was leased last year for purposes of experiment. A portion of it was given the highest scientific cultivation, and the remainder allowed to go in much the same fashion that is usual on Willamette valley farms. The difference in the appearance of the two portions is so marked as to leave no doubt of the efficacy of care. Scarcely a single box of marketable apples will be secured from the neglected portion, while from the cultivated part at least 600 boxes of the finest fruit will be secured.

The test seems to establish that Newtowns are a desirable variety for planting in the Willamette valley. Professor Lewis declares the color of the fruit from this orchard is as fine as can be produced. The apples will grade 3 1/2, 4 and 4 1/2 tier.

High School Debating League.

University of Oregon, Eugene—The Oregon State High School Debating league, organized during the past summer, is meeting with hearty co-operation from all parts of the state. Up to the present time fifteen of the larger schools have signified their intention of joining the league, including Pendleton, Baker City, La Grande, Ontario, The Dalles, Astoria, Salem, Eugene, Roseburg, Klamath Falls, Medford, Grants Pass, Bandon, Marshfield, North Bend and a number of smaller ones. On account of the reorganization of its high schools, Portland was not able to enter, but will do so next year. The state has been divided into four districts, and a championship team will be chosen from each district. The final debate will be held at the University of Oregon. A handsome silver cup will be given to the winning team.

Dry Range Killing Sheep.

Pendleton—That sheep on many ranges of Eastern Oregon are unaccountably dying is the report brought to this city by prominent sheepmen. The heaviest loss seems to be in Morrow and Gilman counties, with a lesser amount in Umatilla county. A. Smythe & Son, of Arlington, report the loss of 200 head, and William Smith, of Morrow county, has lost about an equal number. Opinions among sheepmen differ as to the cause. Some think the sheep are getting a poisonous weed, but the prevalent opinion is that owing to the unusually dry fall, the grass is insufficient and the quality poor.

Car Shortage Hurts.

Athens—The car shortage here is a great drawback in the shipping of products. Many hundred tons of wheat are stored in the various warehouses awaiting shipment, and most of the wheat that has been shipped so far was sent out on flat cars. Many of the farmers along the little railroad stations have been unable to sell their wheat at good prices because the warehouse companies, as the agents, are unwilling to buy too much wheat unless they know they can ship it out.

C. & E. Makes Report.

Salem—The report of the Corvallis & Eastern railway, filed with the state railway commission, makes the following showing: Earnings from operation, \$235,807.42; operating expenses, \$139,793.17; income from operation, \$96,014.25; total income, same, deductions, taxes, interest, etc., \$64,151.30; net income, \$31,862.95; surplus, same; no dividends; total deficit for entry general balance sheet, 208,126.58; total cost of construction and equipment, \$3,114,280.90.

Apples Await Road.

Pilot Rock—It is estimated that there are now about \$18,000 worth of excellent apples on orchards tributary to this place awaiting the completion of the Umatilla Central from Pendleton to this place, so they can be shipped to market. If the road is completed soon many of the fall apples can be saved. After this year great quantities of fruit will be shipped out from this point to the markets.

Many Apples Spoiling.

Pendleton—On account of the scarcity of help to pick and shortage of cars many apples are going to waste in Umatilla county. The car shortage is holding up the shipment of several hundred boxes at Milton.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT.

Tax Reform Association Would Exempt Many Articles.

The Oregon Tax Reform association, with headquarters at Portland, has for its object several radical changes in the mode of taxation. Circular letters have been issued and sent to granges and other organizations throughout the state. The changes are to be made by amending the constitution through the initiative. The following is the text of the associations' desire:

"All dwelling houses, all barns, sheds, outhouses, and other improvements appertaining to any dwelling; all fences, farm machinery and appliances used as such; orchards, crops and livestock; household furniture in use, and tools owned and in use by a mechanic shall be exempt from taxation."

New Game Warden.

Salem—Robert O. Stevenson, of Forest Grove, has been appointed state game and forestry warden by Governor Chamberlain. Mr. Stevenson will succeed John W. Baker, of Cottage Grove, whose term of office has expired. The appointment of Mr. Stevenson makes the first change in Governor Chamberlain's official family. The appointment is for four years, during which time Mr. Stevenson will make his headquarters at Forest Grove. The new appointee is a well known citizen of Forest Grove and is a native son, having been born and raised in Yamhill county. In politics he is a Democrat, and his appointment was made upon the recommendation of a large number of prominent Democrats throughout the Willamette valley.

Rhodes Scholarship Examination.

University of Oregon, Eugene—The next qualifying examinations for the Rhodes scholarships for this state will be held at the University of Oregon, Tuesday and Wednesday, January 21 and 22, 1908. The arrangements for conducting the examinations will follow closely those of last year, with the exception that an examination fee of \$5 will be charged all candidates. The examinations will be under the direction of the Oregon Committee of Selection, composed of President P. L. Campbell, of the University of Oregon, chairman; President Ferrin, of Pacific university; President Coleman, of Willamette university; President Crooks, of Albany college, and President Riley, of McMinnville college.

War on Illegal Dams.

Pendleton—One hundred and fifty residents of Pendleton and vicinity have united in a war against the dams in the Umatilla river, which are causing the death of many salmon in the river. They have signed a petition to the state game warden. There are dams, according to the complaint, which do not provide for the passage of the fish.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 87c; bluestem, 89c; valley, 87c; red, 85c.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$29.50; gray, \$29.50.

Barley—Feed, \$28.50 per ton; brewing, \$30; rolled, \$30@31.

Corn—Whole, \$32; cracked, \$33.

Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$17@18 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$23; clover, \$13; cheat, \$13; grain hay, \$13@14; alfalfa, \$13@14.

Fruits—Apples, \$1@2.50 per box; cantaloupes, \$1@1.50 per dozen; watermelons, 1c per pound; pears, \$1@1.75 per box; grapes, 75c@1.75 per crate; quinces, 50c@1 per box; huckleberries, 7@8c per pound; cranberries, \$10@10.50 per barrel.

Vegetables—Turnips, \$1.25 per sack; carrots, \$1.25 per sack; beets, \$1.25 per sack; cabbage, 1@1 1/4c per pound; cauliflower, 25c@31c per dozen; celery, 50c@1 per dozen; corn, 85c@1 per sack; cucumbers, \$1 per sack; onions, 15@20c per dozen; parsley, 20c per dozen; peppers, 8@17c per pound; radishes, 2c per dozen; spinach, 6c per pound; squash, 1@1 1/4c per pound; tomatoes, 25@50c per box.

Onions—\$2@2.50 per sack.

Potatoes—75c@1 per hundred, delivered Portland; sweet potatoes, 2 1/2c per pound.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 30@35c per pound.

Veal—75 to 125 pounds, 8@8 1/2c; 125 to 150 pounds, 7 1/2c; 150 to 200 pounds, 6@7c.

Pork—Block, 75 to 150 pounds, 7 1/2@8c; packers, 7@7 1/2c.

Poultry—Average old hens, 12 1/2@12 3/4c per pound; mixed chickens, 11 1/2@12c; spring chickens, 11 1/2@12c; old roosters, 8@9c; dressed chickens, 13@14c; turkeys, live, old, 16c; young, 18c; geese, live, 9@10c; ducks, 14c; pigeons, \$1@1.50, squabs, \$2@3.

Eggs—Fresh ranch, candled, 35c per dozen.

Hops—1907, 7@9c per pound; olds, 4c per pound.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 16@22c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 20@22c, according to fineness; mohair, choice, 29@30c per pound.

ROADS HIT BACK

Refuse Lumber Shipments Until Further Notice.

Bellingham, Wash., Nov. 1.—No more lumber shipments will be received by the Northern Pacific railroad in the Northwest until further notice. This is the order sent out to all agents of the company last night.

This move of the Northern Pacific is expected to be followed by all the railroads affected by the injunction issued by the Federal court in Seattle Thursday night, making it compulsory on the part of the railroads to charge the old rate of 40 cents on lumber from terminal points on the Pacific Coast. The railroads had issued a new schedule of rates that were to be effective today. This new schedule was fought by the lumbermen and resulted in the issuance of the temporary injunction.

The railroads have evidently found another method of combatting the lumbermen. The latest move is the refusal to accept any shipments of lumber at any rate. The roads figure they would be taking too great a risk to allow the excess freight to accumulate until a final decision on the rate is made, as they say that litigation will ensue before the matter is settled, and many of the lumber firms may have gone out of business.

COURT SIGNS ORDER.

Grants Injunction Asked by the Oregon Lumbermen.

Portland, Nov. 1.—Following the decision rendered by the United States Circuit Court at Seattle Wednesday, Judge Wolverton, of the Federal court, granted an injunction yesterday restraining the railroads from putting in the advanced lumber rates to the East until the merits of the case can be set before the Interstate Commerce commission and a hearing be held. The restraining order was asked by the Oregon & Washington Lumber Manufacturers' association, and upon his return from Seattle yesterday morning Judge Wolverton announced that the prayer of the lumbermen would be granted.

Judge Wolverton ordered the association to put up a bond for \$250,000 that will be called for in the event the railroads finally win. This money will be used to pay the difference between the present rates and the proposed tariffs, should the railroads finally win.

Lumber companies in the state not members of the association are advised to file suits in intervention as soon as possible, in order that the railroads will not be enabled to enforce the proposed freight rates on firms not parties to the suit brought by the association.

The advanced rates, as announced by the railroads on all lumber shipments to the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, were to have gone into effect today, but the injunction will postpone them indefinitely. The increase was published some time ago and tariffs issued by the railroads. Appeals were made direct to the Interstate Commerce commission to postpone the enforcement of the rate, but as no complaint was before the commission, it could not act upon the appeal.

MONEY IS EASIER.

Acute Stage of Financial Crisis Over in East.

New York, Nov. 1.—Indications that the available supply of cash would be materially increased within a short time with imports of gold and the increase of the bank note circulation, and that the movement of cotton and grain crops would be facilitated in every way possible, with the result of increasing our credits abroad, were the salient features of today's financial situation. It seemed to be recognized everywhere that the acute stage of the crisis was over and that all that remained was to obtain sufficient currency to resume currency payments upon a broad scale and thus to restore conditions prevailing before the crisis.

The engagements of gold made in New York, Chicago and elsewhere brought up the total import movement within the past week to \$23,750,000. As the amount of gold will afford a basis of credit to four times the amount, or about \$95,000,000, it will in itself afford much relief to the existing pressure.

Harvard Angers Germans.

New York, Nov. 1.—Special dispatches say that some comment has been raised in the American colony in Berlin by the fact that Harvard university has sent as this year's "exchange professor" a Britisher instead of an American. The professor in question is William Henry Schofield, who was born a Canadian and is a subject of King Edward. It is feared in American quarters that Harvard by its action has mixed up the plans of the Kaiser for a German-American educational experiment.

Chinese Come in Via Mexico.

Mexico City, Nov. 1.—According to a dispatch to the Record, since the first of the year there have arrived at the port of Salina Cruz 4,763 Chinese. Of this total, two-thirds have for their destination the United States. A great many of these foreigners seem to have at one time lived in the United States and are laboring under the impression that they can get in again.

HAPPENINGS GATHERED IN AND AROUND WASHINGTON, D. C.

WANT TWO MORE BIG SHIPS.

Naval Officers Expect Appropriation for 20,000-Ton Battleships.

Washington, Nov. 1.—It is the opinion of naval officers generally that congress, at the coming session, should provide for two new 20,000-ton battleships, to be companion ships to those recently placed under contract. Navy men believe it is a good idea to build up the naval force in units of four ships each, each ship of the unit to be identical with the other three. If this policy could be adopted, the navy could be enlarged more rapidly than if the plans are continually changed. For instance, if the necessary appropriations could be obtained for two ships of this type, contracts could be let for them not later than the first of next August, and they would follow along less than a year behind the ships recently contracted for.

If there should be any radical change in shipbuilding before the next contracts could be awarded, the officers concede that the government would be justified in modifying its plans. For the present these officers are content with 20,000-ton battleships, and are not favorable to the immediate construction of ships of 22,500 or 25,000 tons, unless congress should see fit to appropriate for more than two battleships at the approaching session, and no one looks for any such abnormal appropriations at this time. If congress authorizes two new battleships in the next naval appropriation bill it will be doing more than many friends of the navy expect. There is a general feeling that congress will rather be inclined to hold down naval appropriation, and authorize one rather than two battleships.

Trails in Rainier Forest.

Washington, Nov. 2.—Supervisor G. F. Allen, of the Rainier National forest, Washington, has just been authorized to expend \$1,750 for the construction of trails, cabins and pastures in his forest. The money is now available and the work will be begun at once. The greater part of the amount authorized will be used for building a fine trail system which will increase the effectiveness of the ranger force in all lines of work. Lack of trails in the Rainier forest has heretofore caused the loss of considerable time to forest officers traveling between important points.

Conditions Scare Officers.

Washington, Oct. 31.—So serious are conditions in the army that as soon as congress convenes it will be asked to correct wrongs that menace the entire organization. The facts were admitted today at the War department. Desertions are on the increase; the standard of recruits far too low; pay is too small; there is too much promotion by favoritism; enthusiasm is lacking; fear of tropical service is general and the absence of the canteen has led to drunkenness and disgrace. These statements are made in officers' reports.

Railroads Aid Favorites.

Washington, Nov. 2.—In a complaint filed before the Interstate Commerce commission 223 railroads and transportation companies are made defendants by the wholesale drygoods dealers of Wichita. The complaints allege discrimination against Wichita in favor of Topeka and Kansas City in shipments from the Atlantic seaboard.

Pensioners in the Northwest.

Washington, Oct. 30.—The annual report of the commissioner of pensions shows that on June 30, 1907, there were 7,798 pensioners in Oregon drawing annual pensions aggregating \$1,021,545. In Washington there were 10,393 pensioners, drawing \$1,352,634; in Idaho, 2,205, drawing \$292,296, and in Alaska 68, drawing \$9,699.

Oklahoma as a State.

Washington, Oct. 31.—President Roosevelt will proclaim Oklahoma a state on Saturday, November 16. The president made this announcement today to Governor Frantz, who brought to Washington a certified copy of the new constitution.

Oregon Railway Mail-Clerks.

Washington, Oct. 31.—Melton Vernon, of Portland; Ralph W. Knott, of Albany; J. C. Cooper, Thomas E. Thompson, A. R. Leta and F. E. Scoville, of Portland, are appointed railway mail clerks.

Government Buys Silver.

Washington, Nov. 1.—The Treasury department today purchased 200,000 ounces of silver at 60.941 cents per fine ounce, 100,000 ounces to be delivered at New Orleans and 100,000 ounces in San Francisco.

New Rural Carriers Named.

Washington, Oct. 31.—W. E. Child has been appointed regular, Sherman Lyon substitute rural carrier, route 2, at Barton, Oregon.

Rural Carrier at Sunset.

Washington, Nov. 2.—David M. McCance has been appointed regular, and George Mills substitute, rural carrier, route 1, at Sunset, Wash.

SMELTER TRUST NEXT.

Prosecution Will Follow Completion of Tobacco Case.

Washington, Oct. 30.—If the government is successful in its seizure of 8,750,000 cigarettes from the tobacco trust at Norfolk, Virginia, under the Sherman anti-trust law, one of its next proceedings will be against the Guggenheim smelter trust, of which the Federal Mining & Smelting company, operating in Washington and Idaho, is a constituent. Charles Sweeney, of Spokane, one of the directors of the Federal company, is heavily interested in Portland realty.

When questioned regarding the government's action relative to other trusts, if successful against the tobacco corporation, a responsible official in the department of justice replied:

"The government will not be limited with reference to any other trust."

"What about the Standard Oil and the smelter trust?"

"The government will not be limited with reference to any other trust," the official reiterated.

An investigation has been going on into the smelter trust for many months. The government has a mass of evidence. If it proceeds against the smelter trust and the Federal company it will seize all interstate cars controlled by the Guggenheims in all their constituent companies.

AFTER FEDERAL CHARTERS.

President Roosevelt Wants to Supervise Trust Companies.

Washington, Nov. 5.—President Roosevelt will recommend to congress a Federal charter for trust companies. This scheme, it is understood, has the indorsement of Secretary of the Treasury Cortelyou and Comptroller of the Currency Ridgely.

President Roosevelt believes that the same care should be exercised in the inspection of trust companies as in the case of national banks. It is held that any trust company refusing to participate in the prestige coming from the possession of a national charter would be viewed with suspicion by the public. Some of the high officials of the administration believe that under the present lack of supervision many of the trust companies are doing business in a manner that is not conducive to public welfare.

To Investigate Overcapitalization.

Washington, Nov. 5.—A searching investigation will be made by the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce, according to the prediction of Congressman Mann, of Chicago. Mann talked with the president today concerning the work of the committee. Mann said pressure was being brought to bear to prevent agitation on the ground that it would mean a continuance of the money panic. Mann, however, thinks an agitation would have an opposite effect. He said: "If we cannot get legislation on the subject we will at least have an investigation."

Held in Honduras Jail.

Washington, Nov. 5.—The State department has been advised by the American consul general at Tegucigalpa of the recent arrest and imprisonment at San Pedro, Honduras, of an American citizen, Dr. O. B. Hunter, on charges of a trivial nature, connected with the transfer of a piece of property. The consul general has been instructed to report all the facts to the State department, and upon this presentation instructions will be given to the American minister at Honduras to intervene in the case.

Utes Growing Restive.

Washington, Oct. 31.—The tribe of Ute Indians which more than a year ago wandered away from its reservation on Utah and threatened trouble in Colorado and Wyoming by threatening to take the warpath and raid ranches, is reported to have again broken out on the Cheyenne River reservation, in South Dakota, where the tribe was given temporary quarters. At the request of the secretary of the interior, the War department today ordered troops from Fort Meade to the scene of the trouble.

Roosevelt 49 Years Old.

Washington, Oct. 31.—Sunday was President Roosevelt's 49th birthday. No celebration marked the event. He did not depart from his customary Sunday program of worship, work and recreation. The day was spent at the White House fireside in a quiet family rejoicing. Congratulations in large numbers by mail, telegraph and telephone were received at the White House during the day.

More Government Forest.

Washington, Oct. 31.—The president has ordered the withdrawal of 34,965 acres of land in Trinity, Shasta and Glenn counties, California, along the eastern border of the Trinity national forest, and it is proposed to add this acreage to the forest.